Data Rights Considerations

Neil Gehrels & David Spergel

April 2, 2014

Background

- Rules for data rights will be determined by NASA HQ prior to science team selections
- Important for observatory builders, science teams and GIs
- Different missions have different rules, dependent on field of view, era, and advocacy of particular groups when the mission was formulated
- Trend is strongly toward "open data" policies

HST

- Standard proprietary period is 1 year for GO observations
- For large Treasury programs, PI often waive the proprietary period
- No proprietary period for multi-cycle Treasury programs
- Instrument Development Teams (IDTs)
  - Guaranteed Time Observers (GTOs)
  - received give certain # of orbits
  - to be used over 3 years
  - GO not allowed to propose for their targets
  - 1 year proprietary time after data taken
- TOO requestors can get 1 year time or waive it

Spitzer Prime Mission

- Legacy programs (24% of time): zero proprietary time (NOTE: Legacy was an option for most of prime mission)
- First-Look Survey (100 hours at start of mission): zero time
- Guaranteed Time and General Observers: 1 year nominal
- Large programs (>500 hr each): most of them waived prop time (the call hinted at that option)
- DDT (5% of observatory time): zero time

Spitzer Warm Mission

- Large programs (>500hr each, >75% of observatory time): zero by default, and may request 90days
- Smaller programs: default 1 year, but many request less or waive

(Legacy category was dropped in Warm Mission)

(Empirical finding: time from acquisition to publication of data is 2-3yr regardless of prop period duration)

Fermi

- Instrument builders given 1st year of data to calibrate observatory
- GBM and LAT instruments both have wide fields of view (8 sr, 3 sr).
  - Impractical to give proprietary time on individual sources since full field is needed for analysis
- After first year, all data are public from time they are processed.

WFIRST

- Past standard of 1 year proprietary time for all data is probably no longer acceptable to NASA
- WFIRST WFI has wide FoV that makes proprietary data difficult
- Option 1:
  - 1 year proprietary calibration period
  - 4 month proprietary time for rest of mission
- Option 2:
  - 6 month proprietary calibration period
  - No proprietary time for rest of mission
- Option 3:
  - No proprietary time following 90 day check-out
- Option 4:
  - Different rules for WFI and coronagraph
  - No proprietary time for WFI data beyond 90 days
  - 6 month proprietary time for first 6 months of coronagraph calibration